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June 20, 1996

Richard Procunier (H-6-2)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Richard:

On Thursday May 30, 1996 we conducted an inspection of the Atlas mine site. The purpose of this inspection was to evaluate remedial activities recently completed by the responsible party (RP), determine if additional improvements are necessary, and identify areas of the site that could be revegetated. Participants were:

- Richard Procunier, U.S. EPA,
- Frank Lopez, California DTSC,
- Karen Wiese, California Department of Conservation,
- Tim Moore, Bureau of Land Management,
- Ron Anderson, Ecology and Environment.

The following items summarize work recently completed by the RP and identify additional improvements that are necessary:

a) Rover Pit - EPA estimated three acres could be revegetated in this area. BLM reiterated the access road must be repaired before revegetation work can begin in this area.

b) Runoff near Pond C - Last winter, drainage channels and culverts adequately passed runoff. Therefore no improvements are proposed. Repair of drainage channels and culverts will be considered maintenance and will be addressed in the operations and maintenance plan.

c) Road drainage - Road drainage has been improved on both sides of the chip sealed road near the entrance to the mill area (see attached sketch). The RP will need to cut a ditch from the upper mine road to induce runoff into the drainage ditch west of the chip sealed road (see photograph 1). Drain rock placed where the drainage ditch west of the chip sealed road crosses the access road to Pond B should be redistributed allowing flow across the access road (see photographs 3 and 4). The diversion berm

installed where the drainage ditch turns sharply to the west should be armored to reduce erosion.

Traffic has cut deep tracks in the chip sealed road near the mill entrance and near Pond C. Runoff has deposited silt on the road surface near the mill entrance.

d) Location of North Gate - The 25 foot fence extensions have not been installed. The extensions will consist of four strands of barbed wire on metal fence posts.

e) Surplus Construction Material - Surplus construction material has been removed from the site.

f) Debris Removal - Debris removal has not been completed. For example, pipes and conduit near the former mill area need to be removed (see photograph 2).

g) Dust Palliative and Soil Stabilizer - Dust palliative has been applied to the maintenance roads as specified in the design.

The rest of the inspection was spent reviewing proposed revegetation areas. In particular revegetation of areas near the diversion berms, the rover pit area and near Ponds A, B, C, D, E, and G was discussed. A site map showing these areas is attached. I estimated these areas to be approximately twenty acres and have notified Tim Moore at BLM. Tim indicated the Mine Site Committee will be sending you the final revegetation proposal within the next week.

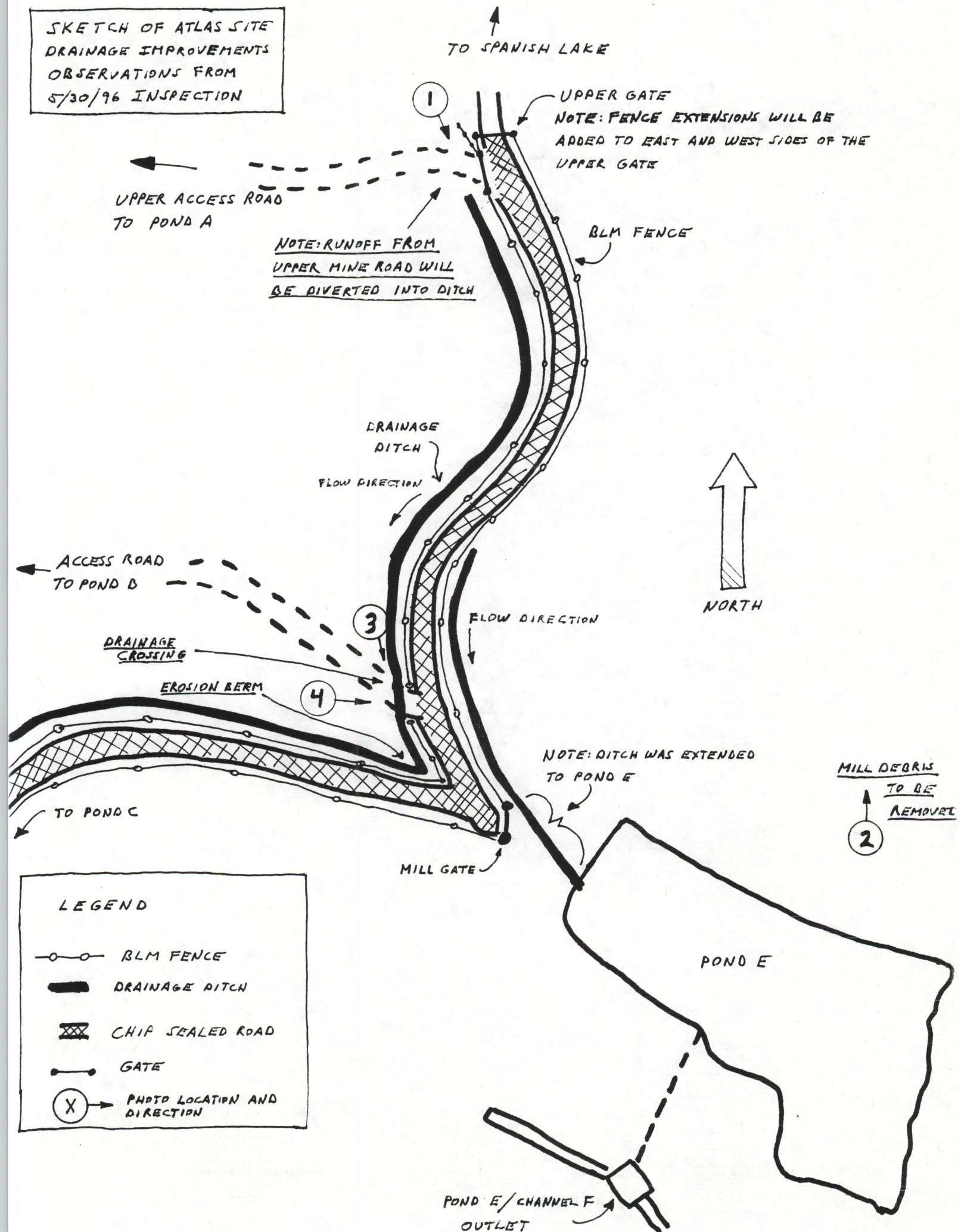
I have also been talking to Rich Wesenburg at Harding Lawson and Associates regarding a schedule for the remaining action items. Scrivners Environmental Services will be at the site this week to complete the work.

Sincerely,

Ron Anderson

Attachments

cc: Shauna Woods, EPA Assistant Regional Counsel
Frank Lopez, California DTSC
Tim Moore, Bureau of Land Management
Richard Blubaugh, Atlas Mine Site Committee


SKETCH OF ATLAS SITE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS OBSERVATIONS FROM 5/30/96 INSPECTION
TO SPANISH LAKE
1
UPPER GATE
NOTE: FENCE EXTENSIONS WILL BE ADDED TO EAST AND WEST SIDES OF THE UPPER GATE
UPPER ACCESS ROAD TO POND A
NOTE: RUNOFF FROM UPPER MINE ROAD WILL BE DIVERTED INTO DITCH
BLM FENCE
DRAINAGE DITCH
FLOW DIRECTION
NORTH
ACCESS ROAD TO POND B
3
FLOW DIRECTION
DRAINAGE CROSSING
EROSION BERM
4
NOTE: DITCH WAS EXTENDED TO POND E
MILL DEBRIS TO BE REMOVED
2
TO POND C
MILL GATE
POND E
POND E/CHANNEL F OUTLET
LEGEND
BLM FENCE
DRAINAGE DITCH
CHIP SEALED ROAD
GATE
X PHOTO LOCATION AND DIRECTION

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Client: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency E&E Job No.: ZM6000
Site: Atlas Asbestos Mine Site 5/30/96
Camera: Make Yashica AF-mini SN N/A
Lens Yashica AF-mini SN N/A

① At the upper mine road looking east towards the chip sealed road. Runoff from the upper mine road will be diverted into the ditch to the right of the BLM fence in this picture.

② Debris near the former mill site. The PRP is required to dispose of all site debris

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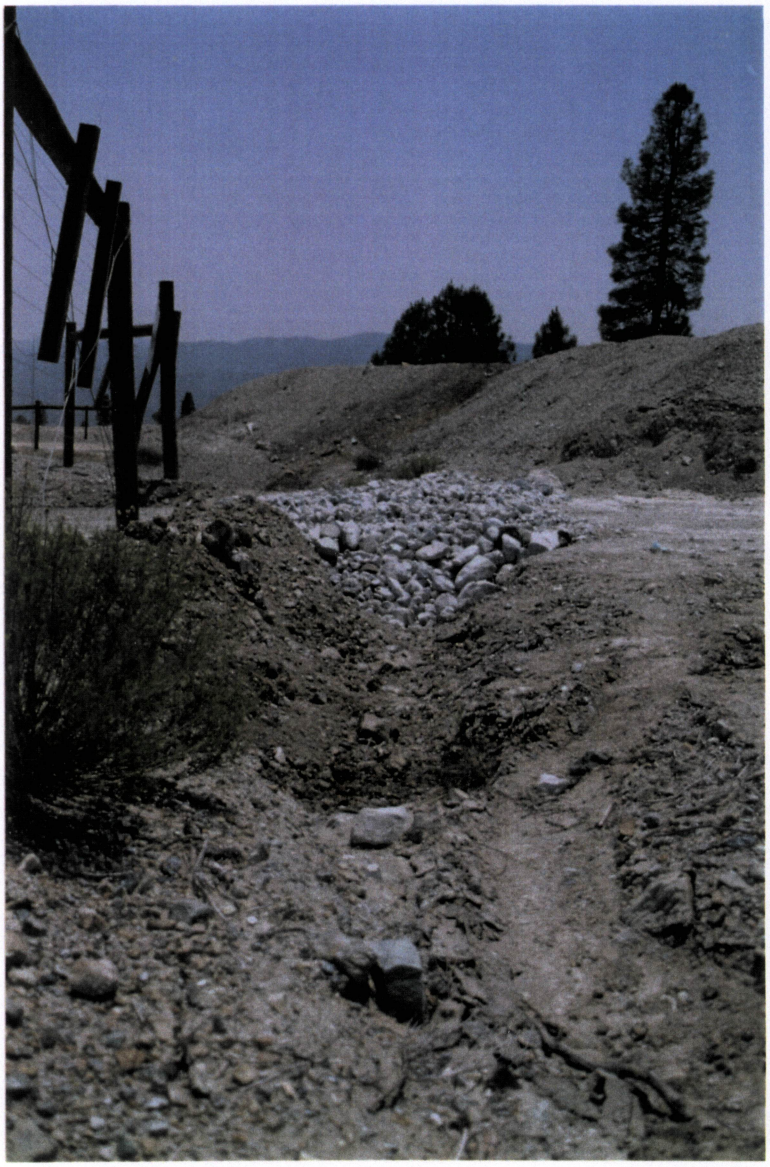
Lens Yashica AF-mini SN N/A

(3)

Side view of the road to Pond B at the drainage ditch west of the BLM fence. The rock looks like it will prevent runoff from flowing through the drainage ditch.



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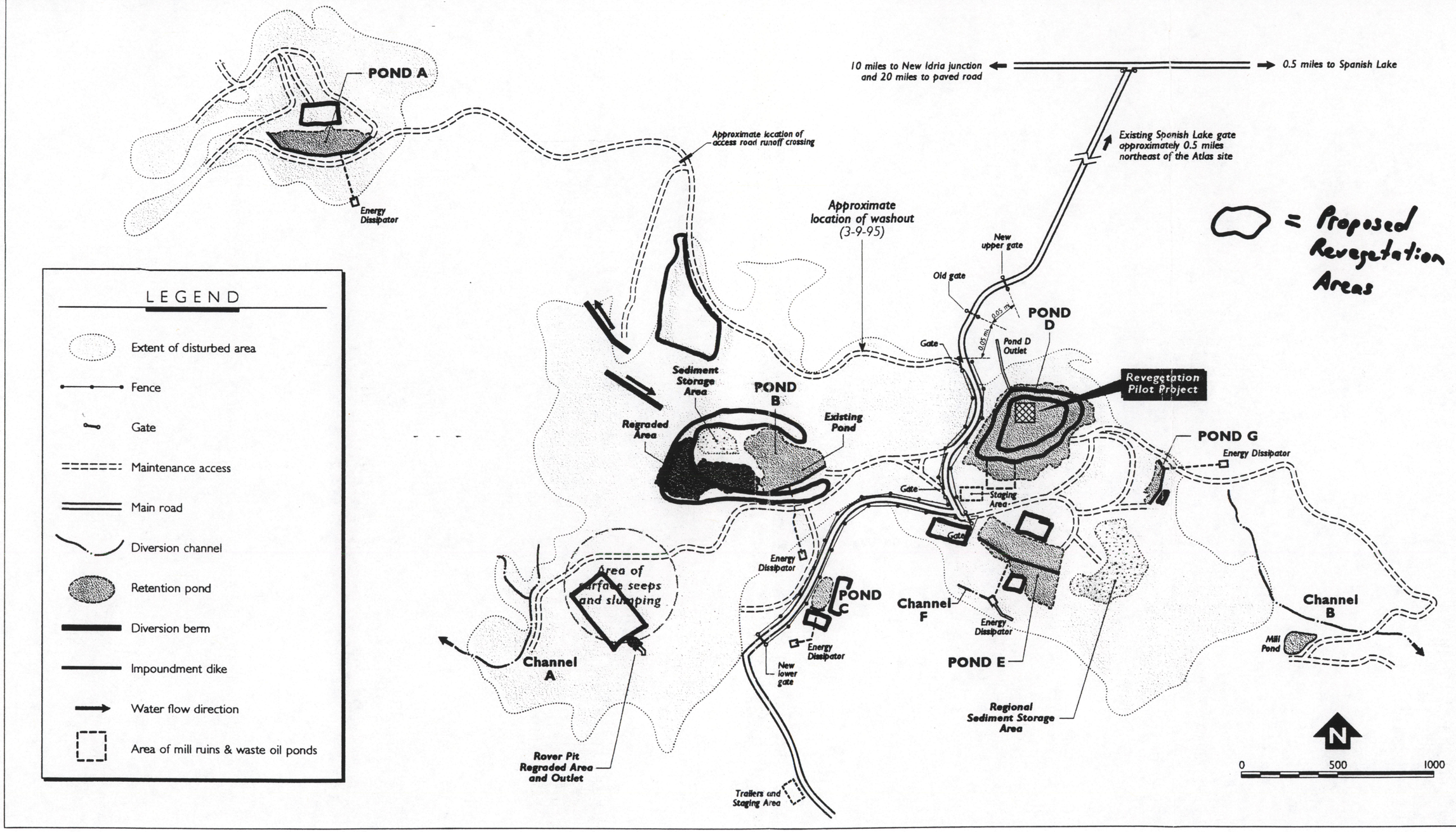
(4) The road to Pond B looking east toward the chip sealed road. Rock has been placed flush with road and will prevent flow through the drainage ditch.

Base map source: Harding Lawson Associates, Plate 1, ***Access Roads and Access Ways***, March 1, 1994



ZN6041.a (c65) 11/21/95

Figure 1 **EXISTING and PROPOSED FEATURES**
Atlas Mine Superfund Site
Coalinga, California